

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-3 and 5 and amend claims 4, 6, and 7 as follows.

1.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor, comprising:

a main body equipped with a propulsion propeller and a power source for driving the propeller and steerably attached to a watercraft body;

a tiller handle extending from the main body of the outboard motor toward the watercraft body for use in steering the main body of the outboard motor;

a sensor for sensing a state of the outboard motor; and

a display device for electrically showing the state of the outboard motor according to the result of sensing by the sensor,

wherein the display device is provided to the tiller handle such that a display surface thereof faces in an oblique upward direction,

wherein the display device is provided on an upwardly facing surface of a part of the tiller handle extending in a substantially horizontal direction,

wherein the display device is arranged such that the display surface thereof faces toward a free end of the tiller handle, and

~~An outboard motor according to claim 3,~~ wherein the display device is placed at a position in the substantially horizontally extending part of the tiller handle close to a base end of the tiller handle.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor, comprising:

a main body equipped with a propulsion propeller and a power source for driving the propeller and steerably attached to a watercraft body;

a tiller handle extending from the main body of the outboard motor toward the watercraft body for use in steering the main body of the outboard motor;

a sensor for sensing a state of the outboard motor; and

a display device for electrically showing the state of the outboard motor according to the result of sensing by the sensor,

wherein the display device is provided to the tiller handle such that a display surface thereof faces in an oblique upward direction,

wherein the display device is provided on an upwardly facing surface of a part of the tiller handle extending in a substantially horizontal direction,

wherein the display device is arranged such that the display surface thereof faces toward an operator when the operator is at a normal operating position, and

~~An outboard motor according to claim 5,~~ wherein the display device is located at a position in the substantially horizontally extending part of the tiller handle close to a free end of the tiller handle.

7. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor, comprising:

a main body equipped with a propulsion propeller and a power source for driving the propeller and steerably attached to a watercraft body;

a tiller handle extending from the main body of the outboard motor toward the watercraft body for use in steering the main body of the outboard motor;

a sensor for sensing a state of the outboard motor; and

a display device for electrically showing the state of the outboard motor according to the result of sensing by the sensor,

wherein the display device is provided to the tiller handle such that a display surface thereof faces in an oblique upward direction,

~~An outboard motor according to claim 1,~~ wherein part of an outer surface of a housing constituting ~~the~~ a substantially horizontally extending part of the tiller handle protrudes outwardly to form a projection, and at least part of the display device is received in the projection.

8. (Original) A handle of an outboard motor, comprising:

a handle main body;

a bracket extending from a motor main body toward a watercraft body to support the handle main body via a pivot shaft such that the handle main body is pivotable around the pivot shaft in an up-down direction;

a friction member fitted on the pivot shaft to create a desired frictional force against the pivoting movement of the handle main body in response to a tightening force along an axis of the pivot shaft; and

a pair of inner and outer nuts engaged to a threaded portion formed in the pivot shaft in a mutually pressing state,

wherein an outer end surface of a bearing portion of the bracket on a side where the nuts are disposed is formed with an opening of a bearing bore so as to allow the inner nut to be relatively unrotatably received in the bearing bore, and wherein an intervening member is disposed in the bearing bore and fitted on the pivot shaft to transmit an axial tightening force produced by the nuts to the friction member.

9. (Original) A handle of an outboard motor according to claim 8, wherein an outlet for drawing out a connecting member for connecting a component part mounted to the handle main body to a component part in the motor main body is formed in a base portion of the handle main body at a position near the bearing portion,

and wherein the nuts are disposed on a side of the bearing portion opposite to the outlet.

Please add new claim 10 as follows:

10. (New) An outboard motor according to claim 7, further comprising:

a grip attached to the free end of the tiller handle for controlling an opening degree of a throttle valve of the power source; and

a member for transmitting an operation of the grip to the throttle valve,

wherein the projection of the housing of the tiller handle is provided above the member for transmitting the operation of the grip.